

1. (amended) A method for increasing the lipid content of the epidermal keratinocytes of the skin of a mammal in need of <sup>said</sup> such increase comprising topically administering a ursolic acid compound encapsulated in liposomes to said skin in an amount effective to increase the lipid content of said epidermal keratinocytes, said liposomes comprising phospholipid bilayer membranes.

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2. (amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the skin of the mammal is skin that exhibits aging as a result of a reduction in the lipid content of its epidermal layer and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to said skin in an amount effective to reduce the effects of aging exhibited by said skin.

3. (amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the skin of the mammal is skin that exhibits photoaging as a result of a reduction in the lipid content of its epidermal layer and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to said skin in an amount effective to reduce the effects of photoaging exhibited by said skin.

4. (amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the skin of the mammal is skin that has atrophied as a result of a reduction in the lipid content of its epidermal layer and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to said skin in an amount effective to reduce the atrophy of said skin.

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7. (amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the skin of the mammal suffers from ichthyosis or ichthyosiform dermatoses and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to said skin in an amount effective to reduce said ichthyosis or ichthyosiform dermatoses.

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9. (amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the mammal has the sensation of dry skin as a result of a reduction in the lipid content of the skin's epidermal layer and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to the skin of said mammal in an amount effective to reduce said sensation of dry skin.

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12. (amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ursolic acid compound is administered in a preparation <sup>comprising</sup> that includes a water soluble preservative.